Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03 EUR-12 SS-15 NSC-05 /061 W

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R 280920Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2033

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, ID

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FUTURE U.S.- INDONESIAN CONTACTS

REF: STATE 145139

- 1. DURING MEETING WITH INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR RUSMIN IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, I WAS INFORMED THAT MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS EMIL SALIM HAD TELEPHONED RUSMIN, QUESTIONING WHETHER FURTHER U.S.- INDONESIAN CIVIL AVIATION TALKS HERE WOULD BE USEFUL AND SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY INDONESIAN DENUNCIATION OF CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT.
- 2. PRESUMABLY RUSMIN HAS ALREADY CONVEYED MINISTER'S VIEWS TO DEPARTMENT. IN EVENT MINISTER COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD APPROACH ME IN JAKARTA, I WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON APPROPRIATE REPLYS TO MINISTER'S MESSAGE.
- 3. WHILE NOTING BROWN'S REPLY TO SUMANTRI IN REFTEL, I QUESTION WHETHER WE SHOULD MAKE STRONG EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE INDONESIANS FROM DENOUNCING AGREEMENT. SEEN FOR THIS END, RECENT DISCUSSIONS OF MODUS VIVENDI HAVE LEFT STATUS OF AGREEMENT VERY MUCH IN DOUBT. THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE SOME ADVANTAGE IN REMOVING IT FROM SCENE AND STARTING OVER. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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I SUGGESTED TO RUSMIN THAT INDONESIA SHOULD POSTPONE DECISION UNTIL OFFICIAL U.S. POSITION BECAME CLEAR AFTER CONCLUSION OF DETAILS OF NEW AGREEMENT WITH BRITISH.

4. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, PANAM HAS NO PLANS TO RESUME PASSENGER SERVICE TO INDONESIAIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ALTHOUGH ALL-CARGO OPERATIONS BY A U.S. CARRIER APPEAR TO

BE A POSSIBILITY, IN OUR VIEW, NOTWITHSTANDING EXISTENCE OF AGREEMENT, THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT GOI WOULD APPROVE ALL-CARGO SERVICE UNLESS OR UNTIL SOME TYPE OF GARUDA SERVICE TO U.S. IS APPROVED. THEY WOULD CONSIDER PASSENGER SERVICE BY GARUDA TO U.S. MAINLAND MORE VALUABLE THAN CARGO RIGHTS FOR U.S. CARRIER TO INDONESIA. IF THIS ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME WE WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT AND INSTEAD ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE A BALANCED EXCHANGE OF AVIATION RIGHTS WHEN A U.S. CARRIER IS IN POSITION TO EXERCISE THOSE RIGHTS.

5. SALIM APPEARS UNDER IMPRESSION THAT JULY DATES HAVE BEEN SET FOR RESUMPTION CONSULTATION. I PRESUME FROM LAST PARAGRAPH REFTEL THAT THIS IS NOT CASE AND THAT WE HAVE NOT MADE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR RESUMPTION. NEWSOM

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